

ABSTRACT

A telephone gateway device that operates in a manner transparent to calling and called parties is provided. The gateway includes a port for connecting one or more POTS devices, a port for connecting to a local PSTN, a modem, and a network interface. The gateway selectively routes toll calls made on an attached POTS device over a computer network, such as the internet, via either the modem or the network interface. Methods of routing and facilitating telephone connections over a computer network are also provided.